



PATENT

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Bryan W. Shirk et al.
Serial No. : 09/817,672
Filing Date : March 26, 2001
For : BIODEGRADABLE VEHICLE
COMPONENTS
Group Art Unit : 3611
Examiner : Lee S. Lum
Attorney Docket No. : TRW(VSSIM)4686-1
Cleveland, Ohio 44114-1400

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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RESPONSE GROUP 3600

Sir:

This letter responds to the Office Action dated December 23, 2003.

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present
Remarks/Argument is respectfully requested.

Remarks/Argument

The Applicants respectfully disagree that the claims are indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. The Examiner argues that it is chemically illogical to have "a fiber consisting essentially of a polyhydroxyalkanoate resin" because this suggests a composition such as cotton "consisting mainly of polyhydroxyalkanoate resin" which is frankly nonsensical.

The claim language "a fiber consisting essentially of a polyhydroxyalkanoate resin" is not nonsensical. A fiber as defined in Hawley's Condensed Chemical